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**SMIIC GENERAL SECRETARIAT
ANNUAL REPORT 2013**

**THE STANDARDS AND METROLOGY INSTITUTE
FOR ISLAMIC COUNTRIES (SMIIC)**

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SCOPE

This report gives basic information about the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC), its activities and major developments for 2013.

INTRODUCTION

SMIIC, an affiliated institution to the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), as a sound mechanism for harmonization of standards among the OIC Member Countries and for the preparation of new ones, aims at realizing harmonized standards in the Member States and eliminating technical barriers to trade and thus developing trade among themselves. It shall establish certification and accreditation schemes for the purpose of expediting exchange of materials, manufactured goods and products among Member States.

SMIIC also aims at achieving uniformity in metrology, laboratory testing and standardization activities among OIC Member States and providing education and training as well as technical assistance to the OIC Member Countries in the domain of standardization, metrology and accreditation.

Since its establishment, over the three years the number of SMIIC Members has steadily been increasing and has already reached 29 Member States with the addition of 6 OIC Member States approved by the last Board of Directors of SMIIC at its meeting in November 2013. Seven Technical Committees to work on standard formation in areas required by the OIC countries, Accreditation and Metrology Committees have been established and are actively working in line with their international counterpart organizations.

SMIIC has initiated consultations and brainstorming with OIC Institutions and other organizations, and is collaborating with some and seeking collaboration with others in relevant activities in order to be able to better address the needs of OIC Member Countries.

HISTORY OF SMIIC

At the first meeting of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) of OIC chaired by the Turkish President in 1984, it was emphasized that the standardization bodies of the Member Countries should harmonize their national standards for the purpose of eliminating technical barriers to trade and thus developing trade among themselves.

In this context, The Expert Group and Coordination Committee have convened 7 times (totally 14 meetings) from 1985 to 1997. According to the resolutions made at these meetings, it was decided to establish the Standards and Metrology Organization for Islamic Countries (SMOIC). The Expert Group in its 7th Meeting in 1996 decided to submit the draft statute of the SMOIC to the 12th COMCEC Meeting and it was decided that the name of the organization be changed to the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) in the 12th COMCEC Meeting.

Following the 12th COMCEC Meeting, member organizations sent their comments on the draft statute to the Turkish Standards Institution (TSE) and the OIC General Secretariat.

During the 13th COMCEC Meeting held on November 01-04, 1997 in İstanbul, it was decided that the draft statute of SMIIC should be reviewed with respect to both technical and judicial content in the frame of the opinions received from Member Countries.

In the frame of this decision, the 8th Expert Group Meeting was held on March 24-26, 1998 in Ankara with the participation of the experts representing their standardization bodies, Deputy Secretary General of OIC and OIC Chief Judicial Adviser. During this meeting, the draft statute was re-written in the frame of the opinions of Member Countries, judicial rules of OIC and international experience of TSE and circulated to the Member Countries as a final draft. Furthermore, the submission of the draft statute for its approval at 14th COMCEC Meeting was decided.

The mentioned draft statute was included in the agenda (Article 7) of the 14th COMCEC Meeting held on November 01-04, 1998 in İstanbul and approved after comprehensive negotiations. Consequently, an important step was taken in order to begin the official work of SMIIC as a regional standardization organization.

The Statute of SMIIC was first submitted to the Member Countries for signature during the 15th COMCEC Meeting held on November 04-07, 1999 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey.

The Statute entered into force after fulfilling the ratification requirement of 10 OIC Member Countries on May 2010. 13 OIC Member Countries (in alphabetical order) which ratified the SMIIC Statute are:

- 1) People's Democratic Republic of Algeria,
- 2) Republic of Cameroon,
- 3) Republic of Guinea,
- 4) Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan,
- 5) Libya,
- 6) Republic of Mali,
- 7) Kingdom of Morocco,
- 8) Islamic Republic of Pakistan,
- 9) Republic of Somalia,
- 10) Republic of Sudan,
- 11) Republic of Tunisia,
- 12) Republic of Turkey and
- 13) United Arab Emirates.

At the 3rd General Assembly (GA) Meeting held on 04-05 May 2012;

- Republic of Gabon,
- Republic of Gambia,
- Islamic Republic of Iran and
- Republic of Senegal

became the new members of SMIIC.

At the 5th Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting held on the 07 November 2012;

- Republic of Lebanon,
- Arab Republic of Egypt,
- Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, and

during the 6th BOD Meeting held on 15 April 2013;

- Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with
 - i) Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO) and
 - ii) Saudi Food & Drug Authority (SFDA),
- Burkina Faso,
- State of Palestine,
- TÜBİTAK-UME (National Metrology Body of the Republic of Turkey),

and during the 7th BOD Meeting held on 22 November 2013;

- Republic of Benin,
- Republic of Niger,
- Republic of Suriname,
- Islamic Republic of Mauritania,
- Republic of Uganda and
- Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (Observer Status)

were accepted as members, bringing the number of SMIIC Members to a total of 29 Member States (including one observer status).

OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of SMIIC are:

- 1) To **develop** harmonized standards to **eliminate** adverse effects to trade among OIC Member States.
- 2) To **prepare** OIC/SMIIC Standards enabling the OIC Member States to gain maximum benefit from the economic advantages of them.
- 3) To **achieve uniformity** in metrology, laboratory testing and standardization activities among OIC Member States.
- 4) To **provide technical assistance** to the OIC Member States who do not possess such standard bodies.

STANDARDIZATION ACTIVITIES

Current Activities of Some Technical Committees

The primary duty of a Technical Committee (TC) is the development and systematic maintenance of the OIC/SMIIC Standards according to related activities within a particular scope of work (e.g.: TC1 Halal Food Issues, etc.). The following TCs were established in the 4th SMIIC BOD Meeting:

- TC1 Halal Food Issues
- TC2 Halal Cosmetic Issues
- TC3 Service Site Issues
- TC4 Renewable Energy
- TC5 Tourism and Related Services

- TC6 Agriculture Processes
- TC7 Transportation

where TC5, TC6 and TC7 are the priority areas of COMCEC.

Halal Food Issues TC1 - Draft scope and business plan have been completed. The 3rd meeting of this committee was held in March 2013 in United Arab Emirates (UAE) where Working Groups (WG) were assigned and the revision process of the existing OIC/SMIIC Standards mentioned below (series of Halal Food Standards) are being carried out in light of current market needs, inputs from various stakeholders and in compliance with the latest regulations:

- **OIC/SMIIC 1: 2011**, General Guidelines on Halal Food (with the references of CODEX, ISO 22000, ISO 22005 + Islamic Fiqh Rules),
- **OIC/SMIIC 2: 2011**, Guidelines for Bodies Providing Halal Certification (with the references of ISO/IEC 17020, ISO/IEC 17021, ISO/IEC 17025, ISO/TS 22003 + Islamic Fiqh Rules),
- **OIC/SMIIC 3: 2011**, Guidelines for the Halal Accreditation Body Accrediting Halal Certification Bodies (with the references of ISO/IEC 17011 + Islamic Fiqh Rules)

The 4th meeting of the Technical Committee 1 was held on 16-17 November 2013 in Dubai, UAE with the participation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Iran, Pakistan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Turkey and UAE. During the meeting the revision of OIC/SMIIC 1 continued in light of the comments received from the Member States.

Previously established WGs were restructured and established with task forces in order to answer pending questions on the Halal Food Issue such as stunning, food additives, etc. in collaboration with International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA).

The revision of OIC/SMIIC 2 and 3 were assigned to the Joint WG with the Accreditation Committee.

Halal Cosmetic Issues TC2 - Scope was defined and business plan made. The 2nd meeting was held in March 2013. New Work Item Proposals were completed and merged into the document “*Halal Cosmetics and Personal Care Products: General Guidelines*” as a working draft (WD), a drafting Working Group (WG) was formed to further work out this draft.

3rd meeting of the committee was held on 07 November 2013 in Konya, Republic of Turkey, with the participation of Iran, Libya, Palestine, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, UAE and IIFA. The committee continued the drafting of the WD “*Halal Cosmetics and Personal Care Products: General Guidelines*” in light of the comments received from Member States and IIFA representative’s view on fiqh issues. The committee established three task forces on Ingredients, Packaging, Labelling and Claims, and Testing Methods that will be work under the drafting WG for “*Halal Cosmetics and Personal Care Products: General Guidelines*” project.

Tourism and Related Services TC5 - The draft business plan and scope have been completed. The 2nd meeting of TC5 was held in Konya, Republic of Turkey on 09 November 2013 with the participation of Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey and IIFA as a newly assigned liaison organisation.

During the meeting, the committee discussed the previously circulated draft scope and business plan and agreed to submit the documents to the members by correspondence. Based on the outcome of the discussion, the committee decided to start preliminary work on possible halal requirements for hotels and tourism services in order to prepare a new work item proposal. In regards to this decision the members were given tasks such as the translation of the documents, literature search, etc.

METROLOGY ACTIVITIES

Since metrology forms the backbone of standards, it is one of the main areas of concern of SMIIC. In order to achieve uniformity in metrology, laboratory testing and standardization activities among Member States, the following actions are currently on the agenda of SMIIC:

- 1) Having an inventory of existing calibration standards and establish a chain of traceability reaching reference standards for each basic unit.
- 2) Acting as intermediary, for any unit, for meeting calibration requirements which may arise at any link of the chain to be established. It shall, through its staff of experts, certify the extent of accuracy and precision with which any calibration laboratory offers services.
- 3) Supplying metrology services by making the most efficient use of the existing potentials in the Member States and aid in solving their problems in the field of metrology through coordinated research.

SMIIC Metrology Committee

Metrology Committee (MC) was established during the 5th SMIIC BOD Meeting and has commenced its activities, to aid in achieving uniformity in metrology and laboratory testing amongst OIC Member States.

TÜBİTAK-UME was appointed as a temporary contact point (temporary coordinator) for the SMIIC MC on January 7, 2013 until its Terms of Reference was approved in the first SMIIC Metrology Meeting. TÜBİTAK-UME was made responsible for coordination of the Committee (collecting membership applications, preparing and circulating draft terms of reference, etc.).

SMIIC MC convened for the first meeting on the 23-24 September 2013 in Dubai, UAE. 18 Delegates of Metrology Bodies from 13 OIC countries attended the meeting.

During the meeting the Terms of Reference and the Memorandum of Understanding were discussed and finalized, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the committee were elected: TÜBİTAK-UME (Turkey) as Chairman and Institute of Metrology of Bosnia and Herzegovina (IMBIH) (Bosnia and Herzegovina) as Vice-Chairman.

SMIIC Metrology Committee Members (Total of 22 countries):

Republic of AZERBAIJAN	Arab Republic of EGYPT
Republic of BENIN	State of The UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	Republic of TAJIKISTAN
BURKINA FASO	KOSOVA
Republic of KAZAKHSTAN	Republic of SIERRA LEONE
LIBYA	Republic of NIGER
Republic of The SUDAN	Republic of GABON
Republic of TUNISIA	Republic of SENEGAL
Kingdom of SAUDI ARABIA	TURKISH Republic of NORTHERN CYPRUS
Federal Republic of NIGERIA	KYRGYZ Republic
Republic of TURKEY	Islamic Republic of MAURITANIA

A list of action items composed during the informal meeting on the 09 November 2012 during the SMIIC Forum 2012 in Antalya, Republic of Turkey were evaluated, it was unanimously accepted to keep these items as part of an action plan.

ACCREDITATION ACTIVITIES

SMIIC Accreditation Committee

Accreditation ensures to the consumer that standards have been adhered to and certificates issued appropriately. SMIIC has an independent Accreditation Committee (AC). AC is the unit carrying out activities aimed at the establishment of an accreditation scheme amongst the OIC Member States. AC shall provide the world wide recognition of accreditation certificates and protect against unfair uses.

AC is responsible for supporting actions for establishing a sound accreditation system OIC-wide and raise awareness of the accreditation concept within the OIC Member States. This Committee is responsible for implementing OIC/SMIIC accreditation standards, performing peer assessment activities and issuing related certificates.

During the 1st SMIIC GA Meeting the Terms of Reference (TOR) for establishment of an Accreditation Committee of which all national accreditation organizations of OIC Member States are eligible to be its members was approved. The AC, whose composition was already approved at the 4th SMIIC BOD Meeting held its first meeting after the 3rd SMIIC GA Meeting, on 04 May 2012, in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey.

AC experts from OIC Member States Accreditation bodies convened to discuss issues relating to the establishment of an Accreditation Scheme amongst OIC Member States during the Committee Meetings which were held on 06-07 November 2012, in Antalya, Republic of Turkey, before SMIIC Forum 2012, 08-09 November 2012 at the same venue.

The 3rd meeting of the SMIIC AC and its Working Group meetings, were held on 15-17 November 2013. In these meetings, planned activities in the previous activity report were discussed, and further studies to be done were evaluated and planned.

SMIIC Accreditation Committee Members:

People's Democratic Republic of ALGERIA	Islamic Republic of IRAN
People's Republic of BANGLADESH	Islamic Republic of PAKISTAN
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA	Republic of TUNISIA
Arab Republic of EGYPT	Republic of TURKEY
KYRGYZ Republic	State of The UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
LIBYA	

CERTIFICATION BODIES (CBs) PROGRAMME

Halal is a very sensitive, important and a critical issue for Muslims. The issue of Halal is a broad field. All food Muslims consume should be “tayyib” and “Halal” as to comply with the related verses of the Quran. Until recently, before the rising of global trade, most of the countries were enjoying what they produced in their territories according to their beliefs. Therefore, Halal Food seemed not to be a problem in Muslim countries, however globalisation has meant that what is being consumed in Muslim countries are no longer only a product of that country. For a food product to be halal, not only the food itself, the source and the means that it is achieved needs to be Halal. The feed that the animals are fed on, the fertilizers which are being used in agriculture, the ingredients and production aids being used during production are originating from all over the world. In many Muslim countries where there is a shortage of livestock, the meat is being slaughtered elsewhere.

Currently there are a lot of Halal logos and different standards on Halal. This is very confusing for the Muslim consumer.

On the other hand, conformity assessment covers the areas of testing, inspection and certification. Accreditation is a tool that provides trust and confidence in reports and certificates issued by accredited Certification Bodies (CBs) who perform conformity assessment.

Furthermore, standards represent the core of the World Trade Organization's Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO/TBT), facilitate world trade by removing technical barriers to trade, leading to new markets and economic growth. Put simply, a product manufactured in compliance with its related standards in one country can be sold and used in other countries by implementing common standards and common recognized certification mechanisms.

It is highly important to conduct the activities to harmonize the standards and conformity assessment procedures under the auspices of SMIIC, an affiliated institution to OIC. Therefore, it has been utmost necessary to take steps in order to establish a strong Standardization, Metrology, Certification and Accreditation infrastructure between OIC Member Countries.

The proposed SMIIC CBs Programme is a system which allows for mutual acceptance of certificates and test reports regarding the products and services covered in OIC/SMIIC Standards among OIC Member Countries. SMIIC will work with accepted CBs who are accredited according to the accreditation scheme. A producer having a certificate issued by

one of the accepted CBs in one participating country can get acceptance from the other countries' accepted CBs.

The primary objective of the proposed SMIIC CBs Programme is to provide confidence for users that applicable requirements to products and services have been fulfilled. Such confidence eventually contributes to the market acceptance of those products and services.

Lack of confidence is the primary source of barrier creation to trade yielding to the repetition of tests and certificate processes in customs. Confidence in the work of CBs and accreditation bodies is therefore essential to private and public purchasers, regulators and other users. Such user confidence can be achieved through cooperation among CBs and accreditation bodies, resulting in mutual recognition and promotion across borders.

The proposed CBs Programme is being prepared for Halal products covered in OIC/SMIIC 1 Standard which also requires product certification and promotes mutual recognition of certificates among Member States.

SMIIC CBs Programme Working Group which was established at the 4th GA Meeting held its first meeting on 29- 31 August 2013 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey.

2nd Meeting was held on 06 November 2013 during the period of 2nd International Halal and Healthy Food Congress in Konya, Republic of Turkey.

ACTIVITIES for 2013

The activities that took place in 2013 were briefly as follows:

Islamic Development Bank Visit

The SMIIC General Secretariat delegation visited the Headquarters of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) on 19 January 2013, in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The President of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), H.E. Dr. Ahmad Mohamed Ali Al Madani received SMIIC Delegation at his office. During the meeting both sides had useful exchange of views and extensive discussion on various issues of common concern. In particular, they discussed and examined the SMIIC projects submitted and the ways and means to support further SMIIC projects in the future.

The Secretary General and his accompanying delegation met with H.E. Dr. Ahmet Tıktık, Vice President (Corporate Services) and shared their opinions on the activities of SMIIC.

Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Headquarters Visit

The SMIIC General Secretariat delegation visited the Headquarters of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on 20 January 2013, in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Secretary General of the OIC, H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu received SMIIC Delegation at his office. During the meeting General Secretariat of SMIIC submitted the annual report of SMIIC for 2012 and had extensive discussion on various issues of common concern. In particular, they discussed and examined the ways and means to strengthen the institutional structure and awareness of SMIIC in the future.

The Secretary General and his accompanying delegation met with senior officials of the OIC at different levels about SMIIC activities.

Muslim World League Visit

The SMIIC General Secretariat delegation visited the Headquarters of the Muslim World League on 21 January 2013, in Mecca, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Secretary General of Muslim World League, H.E. Abdullah Al-Turki received the SMIIC delegation at his office. During the meeting SMIIC General Secretariat delegation introduced SMIIC, discussed possible areas of cooperation between two institutions and invited Muslim World League to take active role in the Accreditation committee (AC) of SMIIC.

Islamic Solidarity Fund Visit

SMIIC General Secretariat delegation visited the Headquarters of the Islamic Solidarity Fund on 21 January 2013, in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Executive Director of Islamic Solidarity Fund, H.E. Ibrahim Abdullah Al-Khuzayem received SMIIC Delegation at his office. During the meeting SMIIC delegation introduced SMIIC and possible areas of cooperation between sister institutions was discussed.

Conference on Halal Food and Food Safety

General Secretariat of SMIIC participated in the Conference on “*Halal Food and Food Safety*” organized by SMIIC and one NGO as a stakeholder and supported by other stakeholders that was held on 26 January 2013, Manisa, Republic of Turkey, where a comprehensive presentation was made by SMIIC.

12th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference

The SMIIC General Secretariat delegation participated in the 12th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference that was held on 06 -07 February 2013, Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt

Independent Industrialists’ and Businessmen’s Association (MUSİAD) Visit

General Secretariat of SMIIC visited Independent Industrialists’ and Businessmen’s Association Headquarters (MUSİAD), on 21 February 2013, in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey. During the meeting, SMIIC was introduced and common possible areas of cooperation between two parties were discussed. SMIIC was invited to participate in the International Business Forum (IBF) organized by MUSİAD.

Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Republic of Turkey, Meeting

General Secretariat of SMIIC visited the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of the Republic of Turkey, on 25 February 2013, in Ankara, Republic of Turkey. During the meeting, where a comprehensive presentation was made by SMIIC, common possible areas of cooperation between two parties were discussed and the experts of Ministry were invited to take active roles in the relevant TCs of their concern.

Ministry for European Union Affairs, Republic of Turkey, Meeting

General Secretariat of SMIIC visited the Ministry for European Union (EU) Affairs, Republic of Turkey on 15 March 2013, in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey. Minister for EU Affairs and Chief Negotiator, H.E. Egemen Bağış received the SMIIC Delegation at the Ortaköy Office of the Ministry. The Acting Secretary General of Turkish Accreditation Agency (TURKAK), Dr. Halil İbrahim Çetin, accompanied the SMIIC delegation at the meeting. During the meeting, the establishment of SMIIC and its latest activities were briefly introduced. The Minister also expressed his appreciation to TURKAK, an affiliated institution of the Ministry of EU Affairs and the Chairman of Accreditation Committee of SMIIC for their valuable work in SMIIC.

TC1 and TC2 Meetings

2nd meeting of SMIIC/TC2: Halal Cosmetics Issues and 3rd Meeting of SMIIC/TC1: Halal Food Issues were consecutively held on 17 – 21 March 2013 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, hosted by Emirates Authority for Standardization & Metrology (ESMA). A new project entitled “Halal Cosmetics and Personal Care Products: General Guidelines” was approved by TC2 and a drafting working group was formed to further work out the working draft. The revision projects of the existing standards based on comments from the field have been commenced by TC1.

The 6th Board of Directors Meeting of SMIIC

The Sixth (6th) Meeting of the SMIIC Board of Directors (BOD) was held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 15 April 2013. SMIIC General Secretariat hosted the Meeting. Following the recitation from the Holy Quran, Mr. Hulusi ŞENTÜRK, Chairman of BOD of SMIIC welcomed the participants to the Meeting and made the opening address. It was followed by the speech of Mr. Mohamadou Bayero Fadil, Vice-Chairman of SMIIC.

Membership applications of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Burkina Faso, State of Palestine and TUBITAK - UME to SMIIC were approved by BOD.

The 4th General Assembly Meeting of SMIIC

The Fourth (4th) Meeting of the SMIIC General Assembly (GA) was held in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey on 16-17 April 2013. SMIIC General Secretariat hosted the Meeting. Following the recitation from the Holy Quran, Mr. Hulusi ŞENTÜRK, the Chairman of Board of Directors (BOD) of SMIIC welcomed the participants to the Meeting.

The opening address was made by Chairman of BOD, Mr. Hulusi Şentürk. It was followed by the message of H.E. Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, the Secretary General of OIC, which was delivered by the OIC representative Mr. Hasan Oker Gürler. Additionally, Mr. Selçuk Koç-Director of COMCEC, Mr. Mehmet Cömert-Director General, Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Turkey, H.E. Dr. Jawad Najj, Minister of National Economy, State of Palestine and Mr. Mohamadou Bayero Fadil, Vice-Chairman of SMIIC addressed to the General Assembly.

The GA was attended by the representatives of the Member States who have membership in the SMIIC GA. Malaysia, Indonesia and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus were represented as observers.

2nd Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers of OIC

The Secretary General of SMIIC, Mr. Haluk Dağ, participated in the Second (2nd) Islamic Conference of Labour Ministers that was held on 25 - 26 April 2013, Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan.

Workshop for OIC LDC Member States

Workshop on Building and Enhancing Standardization, Metrology and Accreditation Capacity in the OIC Least Developed Countries (LDCs) Member States were held on 07 – 10 May 2013 at the premises of Turkish Standards Institution (TSE) in Gebze and Ankara, and at the premises of National Metrology Institute (TÜBİTAK-UME) in Gebze, Republic of Turkey.

The Workshop was conducted in coordination with Turkish Standards Institution (TSE), Turkish National Metrology Institute (TÜBİTAK-UME) and Turkish Accreditation Agency (TÜRKAK) with the support of Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA) and attended by 21 representatives from 19 OIC LDCs.

Oman Food Forum

The SMIIC General Secretariat delegation participated in the Muscat 3rd Food Exhibition & 6th Exhibition of Agribusiness Industries of the OIC Member States held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman on 13 - 16 May 2013 co-organized by the Islamic Centre for Development and Trade (ICDT) and Al-Sha'am for Organizing Exhibitions & Festivals.

H.E. Dr. Hamed Said al Aufi, Undersecretary in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Sultanate of Oman, H.E. Hameed A Opeloyeru, Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs of OIC and H.E. Dr. El Hassane Hzaine, Director General of ICDT visited the SMIIC stand.

29th Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of COMCEC

SMIIC General Secretariat attended the 29th Meeting of the Follow-up Committee of COMCEC of the OIC held on 14-15 May 2013, Ankara, Republic of Turkey.

Directorate General for Standards & Metrology, Sultanate of Oman, Visit

The SMIIC General Secretariat delegation visited Directorate General for Standards & Metrology (DGSM), Sultanate of Oman on 15 May 2013 and met H.E. Saoud Nasser Mansoor Al-Khusaibi, Director General of DGSM to invite for the membership of SMIIC and to discuss future cooperation on the activities of SMIIC. Senior officials of DGSM gave brief information about the activities of their departments to the SMIIC delegation.

National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF) Visit

H.E. MEHOL K. SADAIN, Secretary/CEO of the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF), Republic of Philippines paid a visit to SMIIC Headquarters on 23 May 2013. He was accompanied by Mr. Edil Baddiri of NCMF, Mr. Ahmet Bilgi, Mufti of Başakşehir, Mr. Murat Demirel and Mr. Mustafa Özkan from Office of Mufti of İstanbul.

At the meeting, a comprehensive presentation was made by SMIIC, an accreditation scheme for all OIC Member Countries was discussed.

1st Russian Halal Summit 2013

The Secretary General of SMIIC, Mr. Haluk Dağ, participated in the 1st Russian Halal Summit 2013 held in St. Petersburg, Russia on 04 - 07 June 2013 and gave presentation on the topic “*SMIIC and Halal Food Standards*”.

4th Moscow International Halal Exhibition

SMIIC Staff, Mr. Çağrı Cankurtaran, participated in the 4th Moscow International Halal Exhibition held in Moscow, Russia on 13 - 14 June 2013 and gave presentation on the topic “*SMIIC and Halal Food Standards*”.

International Islamic Fiqh Academy Visit

General Secretariat of SMIIC visited the Headquarters of the International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA) on 30 June 2013, in Jeddah, KSA. The Secretary General of IIFA, H.E. Prof. Ahmad Khalid Babikr received the SMIIC Delegation at his office accompanied by Dr. Abdulqahir Qamar, Director of Fatwa and Sharia Rulings Department of IIFA. During the meeting, where a comprehensive presentation was made by SMIIC, both sides had a useful exchange of views and IIFA was invited to become a liaison organization to the related TCs and continue to participate in its activities.

36th Session of the ICECS

General Secretariat of SMIIC participated in the 36th Session of the Islamic Commission for Economic, Social and Cultural Affairs (ICECS) in OIC Headquarters, Jeddah on 30 June – 02 July 2013, KSA.

Enhancing of Competitive Capacity of SMEs in the Member Countries of OIC

A training program with a theme on the “Enhancing of Competitive Capacity of SMEs in the Member Countries of Organization of Islamic Countries” was organized by the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of OIC (COMCEC) in coordination with TSE on 19-23 August 2013 in TSE Quality Campus premises, Gebze-Kocaeli, Republic of Turkey. Experts from Gambia, Palestine, Mauritania, Suriname and Uganda participated in the programme and visited SMIIC Headquarters on 22 August 2013 where the activities of SMIIC comprehensively introduced.

SMIIC Certification Bodies (CBs) Programme Working Group (WG) Meeting

SMIIC Certification Bodies (CBs) Programme Working Group (WG) Meeting was held on 29-31 August 2013 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey to further work out proposed draft CBs Programme of which a road map was outlined with its action items to be completed in preparation of the certification mechanism.

Visit of Sharjah Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Second Vice Chairman of UAE-Sharjah Chamber of Commerce & Industry H.E. Mr. Saeed Obaid Al Jarwan paid a visit to SMIIC Headquarters on 5th of September 2013 where latest improvements/developments for Halal issues were discussed in both the countries in the OIC and the non-OIC region.

Coordination Meeting with SESRIC

Coordination Meeting on possible Mandates of SMIIC on “*OIC Framework for Cooperation on Labor, Employment and Social Protection*” regarding Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) with Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for the Islamic Countries (SESRIC) organized and took place at SESRIC Headquarters on 20 September 2013, in Ankara, Republic of Turkey.

The Director General of SESRIC, H.E. Prof. Savaş Alpay received the SMIIC Delegation at his office accompanied by Mr. Fatih Serenli, Director at the Training and Technical Cooperation Department of SESRIC. During the meeting, where the latest developments of SMIIC were introduced and both sides had a useful exchange of views for the possible cooperation on the needs of OIC Member Countries in economical domains.

SMIIC Metrology Committee Meeting

SMIIC Metrology Committee convened for the first meeting on the 23-24 September 2013 in Dubai, UAE. 18 Delegates of Metrology Bodies from 13 OIC countries attended the meeting by the representatives listed below:

During the meeting the Terms of Reference and the Memorandum of Understanding were discussed and finalized, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the committee were elected: TÜBİTAK-UME (Turkey) as Chairman and Institute of Metrology of Bosnia and Herzegovina (IMBIH) (Bosnia and Herzegovina) as Vice-Chairman.

Participant Countries of the Metrology Committee Meeting:

Country	Institute
AZERBAIJAN	State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Patent of the Republic of Azerbaijan (SMPDK)
BENIN	Agence Béninoise de Metrologie et de Control de la Qualité (ABMCQ)
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	Institute of Metrology of Bosnia and Herzegovina (IMBIH)
BURKINA FASO	Direction Generale de la Qualite et de la Metrologie (DGQM)
KAZAKHSTAN	Kazakhstan Institute of Metrology, (KazInMetr)
LIBYA	Libyan National Center For Standardization And Metrology(LNCSM)
SUDAN	Sudanese Standards and Metrology Organization (SSMO)
TUNISIA	National Metrology Agency (ANM)
KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA	Saudi Standards Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO-NMCC)
NIGERIA	Department of Weights and Measures (Legal Metrology), Federal

	Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment (WMD)
TURKEY	National Metrology Institute of Turkey (TUBITAK UME)
EGYPT	National Institute of Standards (NIS)
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	Emirates Authority for Standardization and Metrology (ESMA)
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	Dubai Central Laboratory Department (DCL/DM)
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	Abu Dhabi Quality and Conformity Council - Abu Dhabi Metrology Center (QCC)

Research Center for Islamic History, Art and Culture Visit

General Secretariat of SMIIC visited the Headquarters of the Research Center For Islamic History, Art And Culture (IRCICA) on 1st of October 2013, in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey.

The Director General of IRCICA, H.E. Dr. Halit Eren received the SMIIC Delegation at his office accompanied by Assoc. Prof. Sadık Ünay, Senior Advisor. During the meeting, a comprehensive introduction was made by SMIIC Delegation on its functionality areas.

3rd Global Halal Trade & Logistics Summit

SMIIC General Secretariat was invited to participate in the 3rd Global Halal Trade & Logistics Summit which took place on 22-23 October 2013 in Dubai, UAE. SMIIC General Secretariat represented as a keynote speaker with a speech on “*Importance of Standardization and the harmonization of Standards*”.

International Halal Accreditation Forum

The International Halal Accreditation Forum (IHAF) organized by TÜRKAK, Chair of SMIIC AC, was held in collaboration with SMIIC General Secretariat on 25-26 October 2013 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey. Forum addressed by the Secretary General of SMIIC, Minister for EU Affairs and Chief Negotiator, H.E. Egemen Bağış and H.E. Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan via tele-conference. The aim of this Forum was to discuss and take necessary steps towards a internationally recognized accreditation system on Halal issues by the participants from relevant OIC and international bodies.

The theme of the Forum was “*For Halal Living: One standard, one certificate and non-stop trade without non-tariff barriers with a recognized accreditation*”. Hundreds of experts and representatives of different sectors from 60 countries participated in the Forum.

A common declaration was announced at the end of the Forum which stated:

- 1) Harmonization of the standards and certification systems of the OIC countries,
- 2) Increase awareness of Halal and of the SMIIC Accreditation Committee,
- 3) Increase the participation and support of OIC countries and Muslims living in non-OIC countries to strengthen the current accreditation infrastructure,
- 4) The establishment of an international Halal market surveillance policy.

2013 National Halal Forum - Philippines

The 2013 National Halal Forum was held on October 29-30 in Manila, Philippines. The Forum was the 3rd National Halal Forum held in the Philippines at which the SMIIC General Secretariat was invited to participate as a guest speaker. The Forum is a significant event in the Philippine Halal Calendar to particularly share insights and expertise on the most pressing topics which help to raise the awareness of Halal. The Forum was participated by National Government Agencies and Diplomatic Corp., Local Government Units, Academics, Non-Government Organizations, Private sector and Industry to the Civil Society from the Philippines.

On this occasion a speech on “*The Need for a Unified Global Halal Standard*” was given by SMIIC General Secretariat.

SMIIC CBs Programme Working Group Second Meeting

The SMIIC CBs Programme Working Group held their second meeting just prior to the 2nd International Halal & Healthy Food Congress on 06 November, 2013 in Konya, Republic of Turkey. The Meeting was attended by 12 participants’ representatives from 6 Member States: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (SFDA), Turkey (TSE), Turkey (TÜRKAK, AC Chair), UAE (ESMA & TC1 Chair), Iran (ISIRI), Tunisia (INNORPI) and Palestine (PSI).

2nd International Halal & Healthy Food Congress

2nd International Halal and Healthy Food Congress, in coordination with SMIIC, Halal and Healthy Food Platform and Konya Necmettin Erbakan University was held on 07-10 November 2013, in Konya, Republic of Turkey. The congress where SMIIC was one of the co-organizers was an annual continuation activity of the SMIIC Forum 2012 which was held on 08-09 November 2012, in Antalya, Republic of Turkey. During Congress, SMIIC CBs Programme Working Group Meeting, TC2 and TC5 Meetings were concurrently held.

The Congress aimed to increase the awareness of Halal and Healthy food amongst consumers and producers. The selection of halal and healthy food at all levels of the food chain, from the farm right up until the fork was considered. More than 52 national and international Guest speakers presented their papers in various areas of Halal and Healthy Food including:

- Halal Standards and Accreditation,
- Halal Slaughtering; Istehalah (Transformation or Conversion of Najis to pure),
- The spiritual importance of Halal and Healthy Food in our lives,
- The principals of healthy nutrition,
- Nutrition in special periods and diseases,
- Important points to take into consideration whilst buying food,
- Principles of a healthy kitchen,
- Relationship between environment and healthy nutrition,
- Vitamin and mineral supplements,
- Usage of herbal supplements as medicine,
- Food poisoning and its affective factors,
- Veterinary drug residues in animal foods,
- New food production techniques,
- The use of hormones in animal production and its probable hazards,
- GMO plant products today,

- Genetically modified animal products,
- Organic agricultural production, product market and pricing,
- Potential risk factors in seafood,
- Soft Drinks: production and ingredients used,
- Cereal and cereal products from a Halal perspective,
- Milk and milk products,
- Meat and meat products for Halal meat production,
- Sugar, confectionary and sugar used products for which sugar is used,
- Fruit juice, beverages and their products,
- Edible oils and margarines,
- Food additives and illnesses,
- Natural Foods and Recipes,
- Implementation of TS OIC/SMIIC 1 Halal Food general guidelines,
- Russia-Turkey: on the way to Halal consolidation,
- Halal on the GSM: Halal product verification mobile application,
- Attitudes of Modern Scholars against drugs and relationship between historical reality,
- Food and scholars, their bases for safety,
- The problems of food security and their treatment in the Holy Quran and Sunnah,
- Halal Food and Metrology,
- Istehalah and Istihlak in perspective,
- Istihlak (Theoretical results of physical changing in terms of Halal food),
- Istihlak and examples in Islamic Law.

The Congress also included a poster session for which 64 posters in the area of Halal and Healthy food were presented and evaluated.

The Congress attracted a huge audience of national and international guests also from SMIIC Members Bodies, academics, students, producers and consumers over four (4) days.

The Congress brought people interested in the area of Halal and healthy food together, where academics had a chance to present information and the participants could ask questions to academics from Turkey and different countries during the four days. Many academics are working in this field and this congress was an opportunity for them to present their findings.

SMIIC Technical Committee 1 and 2 Chairpersons and Members also gave speeches in various fields during the Congress as well as the director of the Fatwa Department from International Islamic Fiqh Academy (IIFA).

SMIIC/TC2 Halal Cosmetic Issues Meeting

The 3rd meeting of SMIIC/TC2 was held on the 7th November 2013, in Konya, Republic of Turkey concurrently with the 2nd International Halal and Healthy Food Congress. The meeting was attended by 16 delegates from 8 SMIIC Member States, IIFA and SMIIC General Secretariat.

Three (3) task forces were formed under the Working Group 1 (Drafting Working Group for “Halal Cosmetics and Personal Care Products: General Guidelines”):

No	Task Force	Convenor	Members
1	Ingredients	UAE	UAE, Iran, Turkey, KSA, Sudan, Libya

2	Packaging, Labeling and Claims	KSA	UAE, Libya, Palestine, Iran
3	Testing Methods	Sudan	Sudan, Iran, Turkey

Courtesy Visit to H.E. Abdullah Gül, The President of the Republic of Turkey

President of Republic of Turkey and Chairman of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC) of OIC H.E. Abdullah Gül received the Chairman of the SMIIIC, Mr. Hulusi Şentürk, and his accompanying delegation at the Çankaya Presidential Palace on 08 November 2013.

SMIIIC developments, activities and current issues were explained. The importance of SMIIIC, effect of standards, metrology and accreditation to OIC country economies were discussed.

International Exhibition of Muslim Business

The First International Exhibition on Muslim Business on “*Ethic, Quality and Security at the Service of Muslim Business*” was held on the 14-16 November 2013, in Dakar, Republic of Senegal aiming to create awareness to exchange about possible collaboration on Halal issues particularly on Islamic Finance.

International Exhibition on Muslim Business (IEMB) which is a new platform in West Africa established to foster cooperation between business operators and trade sector stakeholders in the Muslim World. Moreover, IEMB seeks also to innovate and develop business partnerships between entrepreneurs and professionals who are inspired by the ethical principles of Islam.

SMIIIC attended the Exhibition with a stand and was represented by H.E. Mr. Barama Sarr, Director General of the Association Sénégalaise de Normalisation, Republic of Senegal who informed the visitors and delegates about Standardization, Certification and OIC/SMIIIC Standards during two panels. These panels were:

- Panel 1: Halal Market Structure: activities, products and certification,
- Panel 2: Halal Certification: process, control, establishment of national and sub-regional agencies.

SMIIIC Accreditation Committee Meeting

The 3rd meeting of the SMIIIC Accreditation Committee and its Working Group meetings, with the participation of 4 countries in Dubai, UAE, were held on 15-17 November 2013. Bosnia and Herzegovina (as observer), Iran, Turkey and UAE delegates participated in the meetings.

23rd Sessional Committee Meeting of COMCEC

The SMIIIC General Secretariat participated in the 23rd Sessional Committee Meeting of COMCEC held on the 17 November 2013, in İstanbul in which relevant OIC Institutions attended. The COMCEC PCM-Project Cycle Management, and the List of Activities of the Relevant OIC Institutions published on the COMCEC website were discussed.

29th COMCEC Session

29th COMCEC Session was held on November 18-21, 2013 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey. The SMIIC General Secretariat participated as an OIC Institution in which the SMIIC report for the 29th COMCEC was also presented.

8th Dubai International Food Safety Conference

SMIIC General Secretariat was represented by Mr. Salih Yüksel from TÜRKAK, the Chair of the SMIIC Accreditation Committee, with a speech during the Halal symposium of the 8th Dubai International Food Safety Conference held on the 18-19 November 2013 in Dubai, UAE.

The conference was organised by the Food Control Department of Dubai Municipality in collaboration with the International Association for Food Protection, International Commission on Microbiological Specifications for Foods and the International Union of Food Science and Technology.

The two day conference was conducted under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Minister of Finance and Chairman of Dubai Municipality. The conference aimed to discuss the latest developments in the field of food safety, to learn how to deal with and solve the current problems of food safety, to provide access to the latest information and best practices as well exchanging views on addressing the related problems.

7th Board of Directors Meeting of SMIIC

The Seventh (7th) Meeting of the SMIIC BOD was held in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey on 22 November 2013. Membership applications of:

- Republic of Benin,
- Republic of Niger,
- Republic of Suriname,
- Islamic Republic of Mauritania,
- Republic of Uganda, and
- Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (Observer Status)

to SMIIC were unanimously accepted by BOD Members increasing the number of SMIIC Members to 29, one member with observer status.

5th General Assembly Meeting of SMIIC

The Fifth (5th) Meeting of the SMIIC GA was held in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey on 23-24 November 2013.

The Accreditation Committee, Metrology Committee and CBs Programme Working Group submitted their latest development reports to the GA. The Technical Committees latest development report was submitted by the SMIIC General Secretariat to the GA.

The GA discussed the proposals and approved that the new member should not pay a fee in the financial year in which admittance to SMIIC is approved.

The GA was informed about the formulation of mandatory contributions of SMIIC Members to SMIIC Budget which was approved in the 4th GA meeting. The Chairman briefed the GA regarding the re-calculation of the mandatory contributions of SMIIC Members to SMIIC Budget after membership approval of new members in the 7th BOD and the GA discussed and approved the new mandatory contributions of all members.

The invitation of Islamic Republic of Pakistan to host the next BOD and GA meetings in Islamic Republic of Pakistan was accepted and it was decided that the SMIIC 8th BOD meeting will be held in April or May in Islamabad, Islamic Republic of Pakistan in conjunction with the next GA meeting

International Symposium on “The Effects of Standardization on Global Economy”

SMIIC General Secretariat and delegates from SMIIC Members participated in the International Symposium on “*The Effects of Standardization on Global Economy*” held on the 25-26 November 2013 in İstanbul, Republic of Turkey organized by the esteemed SMIIC Member Turkish Standards Institution (TSE).

The two day conference organised under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Turkey, aimed to facilitate studies for eliminating technical barriers to trade between countries and regions, to raise the level of quality of life of society at large and to raise the awareness of all our stakeholders about standardization. The symposium included the following panels and workshops on:

- Effects of standardization on employment and economic development,
- Effects of standardization on efficiency,
- Effects of standardization on innovation,
- Effects of standardization on competitiveness of SMEs,
- Standardization and technical barriers to foreign trade,
- Standardization and intellectual property rights,
- Conformity Assessment,
- Halal food certification and related regulations in the world,
- Green buildings,
- Forest certification (Carbon footprint),
- Standardization in construction materials and construction sector,
- Software standardization and calibration practices in health sector,
- Standardization in transportation.

SMIIC General Secretariat gave a speech on the “*SMIIC and Halal Food Standards*” during the “*Halal Food Certification and related regulations in the world*” panel.

8th Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers of OIC

SMIIC General Secretariat participated in the 8th Islamic Conference of Tourism Ministers (ICTM) of OIC that was held in Banjul, The Republic of Gambia on 04-06 December 2013. The SMIIC General Secretariat was represented by H.E. Papa Secka, Director General, The Gambia Standards Bureau, an esteemed member of SMIIC.

40th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM)

Secretary General of SMIIC and his delegation participated in the 40th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM) that was held in Conakry, Republic of Guinea on 9-11 December 2013.

Institut Guinéen de Normalisation et de Métrologie (IGNM) Visit

Secretary General of SMIIC and his delegation visited Institut Guinéen de Normalisation et de Métrologie (IGNM), Republic of Guinea on 11 December 2013.

2nd OIC Halal Middle East Congress & Exhibition

SMIIC General Secretariat participated in the 2nd Halal Congress Middle East Congress 2013 organized by the Halal Development Council (HDC) and Expo Centre Sharjah which took place on 16-18 December 2013, in Sharjah, UAE. SMIIC was represented as a speaker and panelist in the panel discussion on “*Way forward: Harmonization of Standards (One Logo – One Standard)*”.

As per last year, SMIIC also participated in the 2nd OIC Halal Middle East Expo with stand organized by Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and ICDT which was a concurrent event with the 2nd OIC Halal Congress Middle East.

Courtesy Visit to Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Turkey

A courtesy visit was paid to Mr. Kerem Divanlıoğlu, the newly appointed Interim Deputy Manager of the Deputy Directorate General for Multilateral Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Turkey by the SMIIC General Secretariat on the 31st of December 2013. SMIIC and current SMIIC activities were explained in detail.

Courtesy Visit to Minister of Development of the Republic of Turkey

Dr. Cevdet Yılmaz, the Minister of Development of the Republic of Turkey accepted the SMIIC General Secretariat delegation on the 31st of December 2013. The SMIIC activities explained, the latest developments of SMIIC and the Standardization, Metrology and Accreditation area in OIC countries were discussed.

Mr. M. Metin Eker, Director General of the COMCEC Coordination Office accepted the SMIIC General Secretariat delegation following on the 31st December 2013. SMIIC activities and the latest developments in the SMIIC activity areas of standardization, metrology and accreditation in the OIC were discussed.

CONTINUOUS AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- 1) The activities of SMIIC Technical Committees will continue. During the last year it was concentrated that, there are areas for which new TCs need to be established (e.g. Occupational Safety and Health (OSH), Information Technology (IT) Security and Halal Banking and Finance) which are not yet covered by the current 7 SMIIC TCs.

- 2) SMIIIC AC work to establish international recognition of accreditation and set up the accreditation mechanism in the OIC region shall increase.
- 3) SMIIIC MC has recently been established and commenced its activities to aid in achieving uniformity in metrology and laboratory testing amongst OIC Member States.
- 4) Four Workshops on “*Building and Enhancing Standardization, Metrology and Accreditation Capacity in the OIC Member States*” in the following regions are planned to be organized with possible cooperation/support of Islamic Development Bank (IDB) or COMCEC Coordination Office:
 - a) North African Arabic Speaking Countries,
 - b) African French Speaking Countries,
 - c) African English Speaking Countries,
 - d) Central Asian Countries (CACs).
- 5) A CBs Programme is being prepared for Halal products covered in OIC/SMIIIC 1 Standard which also requires product certification and promotes mutual recognition of certificates among Member States.

SMIIIC General Secretariat will continue to stress the importance of the need of adoption of OIC/SMIIIC Standards since Halal requirements are the same for Muslims all over the world and different standards would cause a contradiction to TBT Agreements.

CONCLUSION

The year 2013 has been an active year for SMIIIC in which many developments and activities have taken place. The 6th BOD and 4th GA Meetings took place 15-17 April 2013 with the addition of 5 new Member Bodies bringing the total to 25 and Member States to 23. In the last quarter of the 2013, the 7th BOD and 5th GA Meetings were held on 22-24 November 2013 in which the 6 more new membership applications were approved bringing the number of SMIIIC Member States to 28 and one Observer Status Member.

The SMIIIC Workshop on the “*Building and Enhancing Standardization, Metrology and Accreditation Capacity in the OIC LDCs*” held on 07-10 May 2013 – Gebze-Kocaeli & Ankara, Republic of Turkey participated by 21 participants from 19 countries. This was a workshop in which first hand data from participants was collected. The participants presented the current situation of Standardization, Metrology and Accreditation in their countries. The steps necessary for the establishment, development and/or enhancement of these areas are being studied and according to the suggestions a road map will be pipelined and the actions taken accordingly.

The Technical Committees have been established, however more active participation is required from members in the Technical Committees in order to develop, revise or adopt standards.

General Secretariat of SMIIIC has been focusing on the functioning of the Accreditation Committee and the SMIIIC CBs Programme to establish the recognition of the Halal Certificates based on OIC/SMIIIC Standards all over the world.

The Metrology Committee has been established and has commenced its activities to aid in achieving uniformity in metrology and laboratory testing amongst OIC Member States which is one of the main goals of SMIIC.

There has been a huge demand from industry and consumers for a common Halal standard which has resulted in preparation and publication of series of OIC/SMIIC Halal Food Standards. The first SMIIC Member, TSE, the Republic of Turkey, has officially adopted the OIC/SMIIC Standards, has been certifying accordingly for the last two years and has signed the “*Agreement between SMIIC and Member States for the Distribution and Sales of OIC/SMIIC Standards*” document. TSE, in the short period of time, has already issued more than 200 Halal certificates according to OIC/SMIIC 1.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) SMIIC General Secretariat expects from all members of SMIIC (ideally from all OIC Member States after completing the membership procedure) to adopt the existing OIC/SMIIC Standards as their national standards and launch certification activities for the sake of supporting a common standard and common certification mechanism among OIC Member States. SMIIC Member Countries are encouraged to complete the adoption process of OIC/SMIIC Standards to establish the recognition of the Halal Certificates based on OIC/SMIIC Standards all over the world.
- 2) Technical Committees (TCs) have the significant role to form new OIC/SMIIC Standards which will be useful to improve trade and the infrastructure of Member States within OIC. For the functioning of the TCs it is vital that all Member States and Correspondents actively participate in their selected Committees. General Secretariat would like to stress that the actual SMIIC work will take place in these committees, SMIIC Members and as well as OIC Members are strongly encouraged to participate and contribute to SMIIC technical work with their voting rights and/or comments in fields in which they feel themselves technically strong and more experienced. Nonmember countries are also very much welcome to contribute to the technical committee work with an observer status.
- 3) General Secretariat of SMIIC also invites and urges the importance of the National Metrology Bodies of OIC Member States to become a member of the SMIIC Metrology Committee.
- 4) General Secretariat of SMIIC also invites and urges the importance of the National Accreditation Bodies of OIC Member States to become a member of the SMIIC Accreditation Committee.

General Secretariat, SMIIC

January 2014,

İstanbul / Republic of TURKEY